

CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

MILITARY PROCUREMENT
MILITARY PERSONNEL



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1011

August 16, 2001

The Honorable Zell Miller
US Senator
257 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Miller:

Thank you for your leadership on the creation of a Commission to tackle the development challenges of the "Southern Black Belt." Your comparison of such a program to the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is on the mark, and provides a clear vision of what could be done in Georgia as well as other southern states.

For too long, our states have lagged behind the rest of the country in most indicators of economic and human health, development, and modernization. As you keenly noted, we do owe it to the citizens of the "Black Belt" to attack the poverty of this region, and provide a better future. The ARC is a clear precedent for the regional cooperation and visionary thinking that this region needs. Educational achievement, human health, and infrastructure, the building blocks of a socioeconomically successful region, have benefited greatly from the ARC, and would do so under a corresponding Commission in our region.

I support this proposal with great enthusiasm, and look forward to working with you in formalizing and implementing it. Please contact my office at 202-225-1605 if and when we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cynthia McKinney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cynthia" and last name "McKinney" clearly distinguishable.

Cynthia McKinney
Member of Congress

CAM/jcf

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